

Hi. This is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT Minute.

MoDOT has launched the largest bridge program in state history. Under the plan, the agency will improve 802 of Missouri's lowest rated bridges in five years. At least 100 of those structures will be under construction early next year. MoDOT had sought to make these improvements using an innovative process where one contractor would design, build and maintain the bridges, as well as pay for the work up front. However, the turmoil in the financial markets made that type of approach too expensive. Instead, MoDOT will sell bonds and use existing federal funds to pay for the work. The new plan is expected to cost \$300 million to \$500 million less than the original proposal. A complete list of all the bridges in the Safe & Sound program and other information can be found on the MoDOT Web site at modot.org/safeandsound.

That's been your MoDOT Minute. Remember to check back every Tuesday for new information.